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Message Text

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70
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08

OIC-04 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 H-02

AGR-20 TAR-02 INT-08 RSR-01 /217 W
---------- 092058
R 141737 Z JUN 73
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7810
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO RUFNPS/ USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 3285 O
E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: EGEN, OECD, EC, OVIP, BE
SUBJ: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MALMGREN ON CURRENT US- EC TRADE ISSUES.

REF: A. OECD PARIS 16036; B. OECD PARIS 16037.

1; (7..-46: AMBASSADOR MALMGREN AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
RENNER, ACCOMPANIED BY DCM AND ECONCOMIC OFFICER, MET WITH GOB
DIRGEN FOR FOREIGN TRADE DE DOBBELEER AND HIS ADVISORS AND WITH
DIRGEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS DAVIGNON ON JUNE 13 TO DISCUSS
ARTICLE 24:6 NEGOTIATIONS AND EC MTN MANDATE. BELGIAN OFFICIALS
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WERE IN BASIC AGREEMENT THAT EC COMMISSION NEEDS AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT INFORMAL EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH US ON ITS THINKING ON RESOLVING 24:6 IMPASSE. THEY ALSO UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED (WITH SOME HESITATION ON PART OF DE DOBBELEER) THAT EC MTN MANDATE SHOULD REMAIN UNRESTRICTIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. MALMGREN AND RENNER MADE PRESENTATION ON ARTICLE 24:6 IMPASSE ALONG LINES OF EBERLE STATEMENT IN OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING. DE DOBBELEER, NOTING THAT MATTER SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN JUNE 18 COMMITTEE 113 MEETING, REPLIED THAT IN HIS VIEW EC POSITION IS THAT THERE ARE BALANCING COMPENSATIONS IN ENLARGEMENT OF EC CUSTOMS UNION BUT NOT THAT EC WILL REFUSE TO EXAMINE POSSIBLE COMPENSATION FURTHER WITH US. TO CONTRARY, HE SAID THAT IT IS NOT THE CASE THAT ENLARGEMENT WILL RESULT IN " COMPLETE INTERNAL COMPENSATIONS".

3. MALMGREN COMMENTED THAT THERE WILL BE FEW EC COUNCIL MEETINGS BETWEEN NOW AND MID- JULY WHEN AGREEMENT NEEDED FOR PREPCOM MEETINGS, AND THAT PRIOR TO COUNCIL MEETING COMMISSION SHOULD BE EMPOWERED TO FIND OUT WHAT US HAS IN MIND FOR PRACTICAL SOLUTION. DE DOBBELEER AGREED WITH SUGGESTION THAT COMMITTEE 113 SHOULD ASK COMMISSION TO UNDERTAKE SUCH EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH US, BUT ON UNPUBLICIZED BASIS TO AVOID CONFRONTATION OF FORMAL POSITIONS.

4. ON ISSUE OF MTN MANDATE, MALMGREN AND RENNER STRESSED NEED FOR FLEXIBLE EC MANDATE AND COUNTER- PRODUCTIVENESS OF PRE-NEGOTIATION POSITION- TAKING. DE DOBBELEER AT FIRST REPLIED THAT IN HIS VIEW EC " CONCEPTION GLOBALE" RISKS BEING TOO FLEXIBLE IN THAT IT MAY DISGUISE EXTENT TO WHICH EC NINE HAVE OR HAVE NOT AGREED ON VARIOUS QUESTIONS COVERED BY IT. HE NOTED THAT GOB HAD ATTEMPTED TO MAKE MANDATE MORE PRECISE BUT HAD FAILED TP PERSUADE PARTNERS. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, HOWEVER, DE DOBBELEER ACKNOWLEDGED WEIGHT OF US REASONS FOR PREFERRING GREATEST FLEXIBILITY ON BOTH SIDES, WITH SPECIFIC POSITION PAPERS AT LATER STAGE TO GUIDE ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS.

5. IN SEPARATE TALK WITH DIRGEN FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS DAVIGNON, MALMGREN AND RENNER COVERED US POSITIONS ON 24:6 AND EC MANDATE IN BROADER, MORE POLITICAL TERMS. ON 24:6, DAVIGNON RECOGNIZED MUTUAL INTEREST IN AVOIDING PUBLIC CONFRON-TATION AND AGREED THAT INFORMAL EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH US ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEEDED. HE SUGGESTED THAT MAIN PROBLEM WILL BE FRANCE, WHICH MAY WELL INSIST ON DETAILED COUNCIL INSTRUCTIONS FOR USCH EXPLORATORY TALKS. HE THOUGHT THAT COMMISSION SHOULD REPORT CURRECT IMPASSE TO MEMBER COUNTRIES AND SEEK AUTHORITY TO UNDERTAKE SUCH TALKS. RENNER POINTED OUT THAT THIS RAISES DILEMMA FOR COMMISSION: SINCE IT HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ASSUME " NO DEBT" POSITION, IT WOULD BE AWKWARD TO REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPLORATORY

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TALKS ON COMPENSATION TO US. DAVIGNON SEEMED NOT TO THINK THAT THIS IS A PROBLEM; HE AGREED THAT FIRST PRIORITY NOW IS UNFREEZING THE PROCEDURAL IMPASSE. IN SUBSEQUENT COMMENTS, DAVIGNON DID NOT INSIST THAT COMMISSION INITIATIVE WAS ESSENTIAL, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT COMMISSION WOULD HAVE TO SUPPORT NEED FOR NEW INSTRUCTIONS WHEN PROBLEM IS POSED BY EC GOVERNMENTS.

6. ON EC MTN MANDATE, DAVIGNON AGREED HEARTILY THAT PRENEGOTIATION POSTURING IS HARMFUL AND THAT GLOBAL APPROACH REQUIRED RATHER THAT TIGHT MANDATE. HE COMMENTED THAT " WE MUST NOT UPSET THE APPLECART BEFORE GETTING AROUND TO THROWING APPLES AT EACH OTHER". AGAIN, HE NOTED, FRENCH ARE MAIN PROBLEM. NO LONGER ABLE TO CONTROL EC DECISION- MAKING, THEY NOW ARE ATTEMPTING TO MAKE MANDATE SPECIFIC TO AVOID LATER INT
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: CORE6
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Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>; APPROVED <13-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980206
Subject: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MALMGREN ON CURRENT US- EC TRADE ISSUES.
TAGS: EGEN, OVIP, BE, EC, OECD
To: BONN
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ROME
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